	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/788,388	OKADA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Leslie Wong	2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *02/03/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-2,4-11,13-36,38-39,41-55,57-73,75,77-78,and 80-85 and now renumbered as 1-77*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:
        1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached .
        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)
1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Ms. Darleen J. Stockley on 20 and 25 April 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace the existing Abstract with the following Abstract.

A message transmitting and receiving apparatus includes a memory device for storing

therein a keyword in an IRC and a degree of importance thereof, a unit for detecting an

occurrence of a message, and a unit for extracting a keyword from a received message. An

importance determining unit determines a degree of a keyword in a received message as stored

in the memory device in accordance with whether or not a user of the apparatus has responded

to the received message. Thus, keywords and degrees of importance thereof can be

dynamically determined.

Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 13, 19-27, 33-35, 38-39, 41-42, 48-49, 55, 57-64,

70-72, 75, 77-78, and 80-85 in accordance with the following:

1.   (currently amended) A message transmitting and receiving apparatus comprising:

a memory, storing keywords associated with said apparatus and degrees of importance of said keywords, the keywords being stored in said memory and used only for a user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus;

a detector, detecting an occurrence of a transmitted or received message;

an extractor, in response to the detection of the occurrence of said received message, extracting a keyword from said received message, wherein the keywords stored in said memory are used for indicating, to the user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, the occurrence of the received message from another apparatus containing the keyword stored in said memory;

importance determiner unit, determining dynamically a degree of importance of said extracted keyword and updating said keywords and said degrees of importance in said memory, wherein the degree of importance of the keywords changes in accordance with time, said importance determiner unit raises the degree of importance of the keyword stored in said memory, in response to the detection of the occurrence of the transmitted message which has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword, and said importance determiner unit causes the degree of importance of the keyword to be lowered in accordance with time in the absence of the occurrence of the transmitted message, and said importance determiner unit does not raise the degree of importance of the keyword when the occurrence of the received message containing the keyword has been detected but the occurrence of the transmitted message which has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword has not been detected; and

an indicator, providing an indication of the occurrence of said extracted keyword within said received message in accordance with the determined degree of importance of said extracted keyword.

2.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said indicator providing the indication provides at least one of visual and audio indications of the occurrence of said extracted keyword in a manner determined by a degree of importance of said extracted keyword.

4.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said extractor further stores a new keyword extracted from the received message in said memory together with the degree of importance of said new keyword.

5.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said extractor extracts also a candidate keyword from the received message, and said apparatus further comprises a register, storing in said memory, the candidate keyword as a keyword, together with the degree of importance of the candidate keyword, when the user of the apparatus responds to received message data containing the candidate keyword within a predetermined range.

11.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 5 wherein said message data within the predetermined range is messages received consecutively from a same client.

13.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit determines the degree of importance of a keyword stored in said memory, depending on whether the user of the apparatus has responded to the received message containing said keyword within a predetermined range.

19.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 13 wherein said message data within the predetermined range is messages received consecutively from a same client.

20.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit changes the degree of importance of the keyword for a predetermined time period after the occurrence of the transmitted message from the user of the apparatus.

21.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit lowers the degree of importance of the keyword for a predetermined time period after the occurrence of the transmitted message from the user of the apparatus.

22.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit changes the degree of importance of the keyword during a time period when the user of the apparatus is operating an input device of the apparatus and during a predetermined time period after the user stops operating the input device.

23.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit lowers the degree of importance of the keyword during a time period when the user of the apparatus is operating an input device of the apparatus and during a predetermined time period after the user stops operating the input device.

24.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit determines the degree of importance of the keyword according to schedule data of the user of the apparatus.

25.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit raises the degree of importance of the keyword according to schedule data of the user of the apparatus.

26.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit sets, in accordance with a time period, the keyword and the degree of importance thereof designated by the user of said apparatus, the degree of importance of said keyword effective during said time period.

27.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit determines the degree of importance of the keyword in accordance with the number of occurrences of the keyword in a predetermined range of received message data.

33.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 27 wherein said message data within the predetermined range is messages received consecutively from a same client.

34.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit lowers the degree of importance of the keyword when the number of occurrences of the keyword in received message data within a predetermined time period exceeds a predetermined number.

35.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein said importance determiner unit determines the degree of importance of the keyword in accordance with an attribute of the received message containing the keyword.

38.   (currently amended) A computer storage medium having a program stored thereon to transmit and receive messages, said program being for use in an information processing apparatus, said information processing apparatus including a processor and a memory, said program causing said processor to provide an indication of an occurrence of an extracted keyword by:

detecting an occurrence of a transmitted or received message;

extracting, in response to the detection of the occurrence of said received message, the keyword from said received message;

storing, in said memory, keywords associated with said apparatus and degrees of importance of said keywords, wherein the keywords are stored in said memory and used only for a user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, and the keywords stored in said memory are used for indicating, to the user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, the occurrence of the received message from another apparatus containing the keyword stored in said memory;

dynamically determining a degree of importance of said extracted keyword to update keywords associated with said apparatus and degrees of importance of the keywords stored in said memory, wherein the degree of importance of the keywords changes in accordance with time, the degree of importance of the keyword stored in said memory is raised in response to the occurrence of the transmitted message which has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword, the degree of importance of the keyword is lowered in accordance with time in the absence of the occurrence of the transmitted message, and the degree of importance of the keyword is not raised when the occurrence of the received message containing the keyword has been detected but the occurrence of the transmitted message which has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword has not been detected; and

providing the indication of the occurrence of said extracted keyword within said received message in accordance with the determined degree of importance of said extracted keyword.

39.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein the providing the indication provides at least one of visual and audio indications of the occurrence of said extracted keyword in a manner determined by the degree of importance of said extracted keyword.

41.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said extracting includes storing, in said memory, the new keyword extracted from the received message, together with the degree of importance thereof.

42.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said extracting includes also extracting a candidate keyword from the received message, and said program further causes said processor to perform the storing, in said memory, the candidate keyword as the keyword, together with the degree of importance thereof, when the user of the apparatus has responded to received message data containing the candidate keyword within a predetermined range.

48.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 42 wherein said message data within the predetermined range is messages received consecutively from a same client.

49.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance determines the degree of importance of the keyword stored in said memory, depending on whether the user of the apparatus has responded to the received message containing said keyword within a predetermined range.

55.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 49 wherein said message data within the predetermined range is messages received consecutively from a same client.

57.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes changing the degree of importance of the keyword for a predetermined time period after the occurrence of the transmitted message from the user of the apparatus.

58.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes lowering the degree of importance of the keyword for a predetermined time period after the occurrence of the transmitted message from the user of the apparatus.

59.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes changing the degree of importance of the keyword during a time period when the user of the apparatus is operating an input device of the apparatus and during a predetermined time period after the user stops operating the input device.

60.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes lowering the degree of importance of the keyword during a time period when the user of the apparatus is operating an input device of the apparatus and during a predetermined time period after the user stops operating the input device.

61.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes determining the degree of importance of the keyword according to schedule data of the user of the apparatus.

62.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes raising the degree of importance of the keyword according to schedule data of the user of the apparatus.

63.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes setting, in accordance with a time period, the keyword and the degree of importance thereof designated by the user of said apparatus, the degree of importance of said keyword effective during said time period.

64.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes determining the degree of importance of the keyword in accordance with the number of occurrences of the keyword in a predetermined range of received message data.

70.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 64 wherein said message data within the predetermined range is messages received consecutively from a same client.

71.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes lowering the degree of importance of the keyword when the number of occurrences of the keyword in received message data within a predetermined time period exceeds a predetermined number.

72.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes determining the degree of importance of the keyword In accordance with an attribute of the received message containing the keyword.

75.   (currently amended) A method to process a keyword in a message transmitting and receiving apparatus, comprising:

detecting an occurrence of a transmitted or received message;

extracting, in response to the detection of the occurrence of said received message, the keyword from said received message;

storing, in said memory, keywords associated with said apparatus and degrees of importance of said keywords, wherein the keywords are stored in said memory and used only for a user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, and the keywords stored in said memory are used for indicating, to the user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, the occurrence of the received message from another apparatus containing the keyword stored in said memory;

dynamically determining a degree of importance of said extracted keyword to update keywords associated with said apparatus and degrees of importance of the keywords stored in the memory, wherein the degree of importance of the keywords changes in accordance with time, the degree of importance of the keyword stored in said memory is raised in response to the detection of the occurrence of the transmitted message which has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword, and the degree of importance of the keyword is lowered in accordance with time in the absence of the occurrence of the transmitted message, and the degree of importance of the keyword is not raised when the occurrence of the received message containing the keyword has been detected but the occurrence of the transmitted message which has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword has not been detected; and

providing an indication of the occurrence of said extracted keyword within said received message in accordance with the determined degree of importance of said extracted keyword.

77.   (currently amended) The method according to Claim 75 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes setting, in accordance with a time period, the keyword and the degree of importance thereof designated by the user of said apparatus, the degree of importance of said keyword effective during said time period.

78.   (currently amended) The method according to Claim 75 wherein said determining the degree of importance includes determining the degree of importance of the keyword in accordance with an attribute of the received message containing the keyword.

80.   (currently amended) A message transmitting and receiving apparatus comprising:

a message importance identifier, dynamically determining registered keywords and candidate keywords, assigning a degree of importance to each of the registered keywords and the candidate keywords, dynamically changing the degree of importance of the registered keywords and candidate keywords in accordance with time, the message importance identifier raising the degrees of importance of the keywords and candidate keywords stored in a memory, in response to the detection of an occurrence of a transmitted message which has been prepared in the apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword, and the message importance identifier causes the degree of importance of the keyword to be lowered in accordance with time in the absence of the occurrence of the transmitted message, wherein said message importance identifier does not raise the degree of importance of the keyword when the occurrence of the received message containing the keyword has been detected but the occurrence of the transmitted message which

has been prepared in said apparatus in response to the received message containing the keyword has not been detected; and

a memory, storing registered keywords and candidate keywords associated with the apparatus and the degrees of importance of the registered keywords and candidate keywords, the keywords being stored in said memory and used only for a user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, wherein the keywords stored in said memory are used for indicating, to the user of said message transmitting and receiving apparatus, the occurrence of the received message from another apparatus containing the keyword stored in said memory,

wherein the degree of importance of the keyword stored in said memory is raised in response to the detection of the occurrence of the keyword in the message, and the degree of importance of the keyword is lowered in the absence of the keyword in messages.

81.   (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the message importance identifier comprises:

a detector, detecting the occurrence of the transmitted or received message;

an extractor, in response to the detection of the occurrence of the received message, extracting at least one of the registered keyword and the candidate keyword from said received message;

an importance determiner unit, determining dynamically a degree of importance of the extracted keyword and updating the keywords and the degrees of importance in the memory, wherein the degree of importance of the keywords changes in accordance with time; and

an indicator, providing an indication of the occurrence of said extracted keyword within said received message in accordance with the determined degree of importance of said extracted keyword.

82.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising means for deleting the keyword having the degree of importance lower than a threshold value.

83.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 38, further causing said processor to perform the deleting the keyword having the degree of importance lower than a given threshold value.

84.   (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 75, further comprising means for deleting the keyword having the degree of importance lower than a threshold value.

85.   (currently amended) The program according to Claim 80, further causing said processor to perform the deleting of the keyword having the degree of importance lower than a given threshold value.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leslie Wong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4120. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:30am - 6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, CHARLES RONES can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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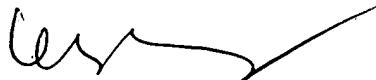
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LW
April 21, 2006